

REGION IV MENTAL HEALTH BOARD MINUTES

April 13, 2010 - 12:00 TO 2:00 PM

Ada County Sheriff's Office

7200 W Barrister, Boise, ID

CHAIR: Greg Dickerson

VICE CHAIR: Sharon Ullman

Attendees: Gina Westcott, Courtney Santillan, Mary Rong, Frank Eld, Vern Garrett

Excused Absences:

<u>Agenda</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action/Next Steps</u>
Health and Welfare Budget	Gina Westcott	<p>The department will receive 20% less in funding in 2011 than it did two years ago. One of the strategies was to do an overall reduction in personnel, 126 positions statewide, possibly ¼ of those positions were not manned before they were eliminated. The second strategy is to look at the overall budget and maintain the current level of funding set last year and reduce expenditures as possible. There were nine office closures around the state; one in Region IV was McCall. There was also a 10th office selected at St. Maries that will continue to have Health and Welfare operations but will not be seeing clients in that office. There were two clinical supervisors laid off in Children's Mental Health in Boise. There will be some changes in the future that will result in a significant reduction in the need for staff.</p> <p>Dr. Koltes will remain with the clinic for 16 hours a week. She has taken one trip to Mountain Home and is happy to do that. We were able to get Caroline Corbett, as well. We still have Dr. Estess and Megan Tumulty, a nurse practitioner.</p> <p>People getting out of state hospital are getting priority and people placed on holds need to have a safe place to be.</p>	
Support services for state hospital discharges	Mary Rong	<p>The amount of time is shortened locally before going to state hospital. Within three days of notice they provide the state hospital with all the discharge information for the patients. Meet with the patients at the region and work with the agencies to ensure the patient's have medical and psychiatric appointments set up so they can get treatment as soon as possible.</p>	
	Frank	<p>"I'm really disappointed. I understand about vacations and those types of</p>	

		<p>things but I am really disappointed that Ross is not here and did not appoint someone else. I thought there would be other powers here because of the gravity we are facing.”</p> <p>“The workings of the Dept of Health and Welfare, the agency, the mental health boards, etc., it is glaring that we never had anything to say. There was never any local consultation from the department and it follows a pattern we have discussed many times here and to me, it is the biggest slap in the face the department can do. They dropped a bomb without even any kind of consultation with the board, some communication, and their message is very clear. ‘We don’t care what you guys think because we are going to do whatever we want to do regardless and despite what you may or may not think.’ I really feel that way because of the way this all came down.”</p> <p>“We put proposals together to try and get some input and we are not getting any.”</p> <p>“I am going to pass on an almost verbatim quote that came from an emergency medical services meeting yesterday, which I was not able to attend because of a commissioner’s meeting. Bill Thomas from the McCall Memorial Hospital brought this to my attention yesterday, along with Jack _____ from Dr. Witte’s office. They said there are 40 mental health patients, regardless of all the other patients and difficulties we have to deal with, who need care and it is the responsibility of the Department of Health and Welfare to plan for their safety. They can’t just walk away and say figure it out how you’re going to get services. Of those 40 patients, 7 to 9 have any kind of insurance.”</p>	
	Gena Westcott	There needs to be meetings to address these concerns. She will give the central office a heads up about the wish to convene a meeting. Frank would need to make a formal request to the director.	
Allumbaugh House	Cindy	Opening is May 3. The handout defines the three different lines of service: detoxification, mental health, and sobering. Allumbaugh house is funded through the cities of Boise, Meridian, Ada County, Department of H&W, United Way, St. Luke’s, and St. Alphonsus Hospitals. For mental health and detox portions of the program, there are 16 beds, about half of which are for detox and about half for mental health, similar to Franklin House. The Allumbaugh House will be open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, with a length of stay expected to be 3-5 days. The sobering station will be open Thurs through Sat from 7 pm until 11 am. This is for an individual who because of their level of intoxication have gotten someone’s attention, typically the police. Currently	

		<p>officers have no recourse if they feel someone is at risk, other than to cite them and take them to jail, or take them to an ER where the officer will be tied up for 4-5 hours, as well as the cost associated with ER care where some people simply need structured support and monitoring to get sober. These hours were chosen as the most beneficial to the community. Eligible participants are prioritized by existing Region IV clients, active department of H&W Mental Health clients who may reside in another region but be in the area, with a focus on serving individuals who are indigent and previously underserved and unable to access care.</p> <p>Self-referral is exclusionary. They do not accept walk-ins. For mental health there needs to be a referral.</p> <p>There will be self-referrals for detox, not walk-ins.</p> <p>Open House ribbon cutting will be on Wednesday, the 21st at 10 a.m. It will be at Allumbaugh House, and dedication at 1:00 in the garden.</p>	
Children's subcommittee	Courtney	Conference (May 14 and 15) registration is open. There are 60 registered already. Expect green ribbons in the mail for children's mental health month.	
	Martha	Bringing in a speaker (Sheri Mead) who will do a week's training in peer support. Please register so we can get a head count.	
	Vern	In May 2009, there were 4700 people in treatment statewide. That number is down to about 2400 now. There were 2500 people on the wait list who were clinically and financially appropriate. The wait list was costing too much money and there was no chance to move off the list. We expect to operate at our current level through the 2011 budget. Half the people are getting services that were getting services before. State was paying for clean and sober housing for up to a year, now up to six months in a lifetime.	
	Gina	Will provide a written update regarding what is going on with McCall.	
		Meeting adjourned.	

Next meeting is May 11, 2010 at the Ada County Sheriff's Department.